
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 404

AN ACT CONCERNING RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS FOR TRASH-TO-ENERGY FACILITIES AND REQUIRING A REPORT ON ANAEROBIC DIGESTION TECHNOLOGIES.

SUMMARY:

This bill temporarily requires electric suppliers and electric companies to obtain 3% of their power from trash-to-energy facilities, rather than a broader range of renewable energy resources, as permitted under current law. This provision applies from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019.

The bill also requires the Clean Energy and Finance Investment Authority (CEFIA) to report to the Planning and Development and Energy committees by January 7, 2015 with recommendations for increasing the use of anaerobic digestion technologies in the state's trash-to-energy facilities.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014, except for the provision requiring CEFIA to report to the legislature, which is effective on passage.

TRASH-TO-ENERGY FACILITIES

Under the renewable portfolio standard (RPS), electric suppliers and electric companies must procure some of their power from class I resources such as solar or wind energy. The proportion is currently 11% and will rise in stages to 20% starting in 2020. Under current law, these suppliers and companies must get an additional 3% of their power from class I or class II resources; the latter includes trash-to-energy facilities and certain biomass and hydropower facilities. The bill instead requires the suppliers and companies, from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2019, to obtain the 3% only from trash-to-energy facilities.

By law, an electric company must contract with its wholesalers to meet its RPS obligations.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 18 Nay 2 (03/25/2014)